

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 02995 012043Z

71

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 SCCT-02 SAB-01 AID-20 IO-14 DRC-01

/140 W

----- 086109

R 011615Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0026

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 2995

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, CB

SUBJ: INDIAN RECOGNITION OF CAMBODIA (SIHANOUK)

REF: NEW DELHI 2903

1. ON SEEING THE TEXT OF FOREIGN MINISTER SWARAN SINGH'S COMMENTS TO THE LOK SABHA FEBRUARY 28 (PRESS REPORT DESCRIBED REFTEL), IT IS CLEAR THAT THE FONMIN CONFUSED HIS AUDIENCE (AND THE PRESS) WITH A WELTER OF VAGUE AND HEDGED COMMENTS. THE CLOSEST HE GOT TO SAYING WHAT INDIA WAS GOING TO DO WAS TO SAY "THERE IS NO PARTICULAR DIFFICULTY (IN RECOGNIZING THE GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE SIHANOUK) BUT STILL WE HAVE TO CHOOSE OUR OWN TIME AND A TIME WHICH IS THE MOST APPROPRIATE TIME FOR ACCORDING RECOGNITION".

TO WHICH ANOTHER MP WRLY COMMENTED, "SAME OLD PHRASE, APPROPRIATE TIME". LATER, WHEN ASKED WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT DID'T THINK IT WAS NECESSARY TO FOLLOW UP CONTACTS AT THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN ALGIERS BETWEEN MRS. GANDHI AND SIHANOUK, THE FONMIN SAID, "I TAKE THE POINT; WE ARE DOING EVERYTHING TO TAKE AN EXPEDITIOUS DECISION."

2. WHEN ASKED TO ELABORATE ON THE FONMIN'S LANGUAGE, MEA
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NEW DE 02995 012043Z

JOINT SECRETARY (EAST ASIA) PARANJPE, TOLD POL COUNSELOR THE

FONMIN'S WRTTEN GUIDANCE WAS TO SAY THE SITUATION WAS FLUID AND THE GOVERNMENT WOULD MAKE ITS DECISION AS THE SITUATION DEVELOPED, PERIOD. THE FONMIN WAS LED BY QUESTIONS PRIMARILY FROM COMMUNIST MRS AND WENT FURTHER THAN HIS GUIDANCE PROVIDED. WHEN PRESSED, PARANJPE SAID THAT THE INDIANS DID NOT INTEND TO SHIFT THEIR RECOGNITION POLICY BUT THAT THEY WOULD BE INFLUENCED BY THE MILITARY SITUATION IN AND AROUND PHNOM PENH. POL COUNSELOR COMMENTED THAT WE WOULD SEE INDIAN RECOGNITION OF SIHANOUK AT THIS TIME AS A POLITICAL DECISION, ONE NOT FORCED BY CIRCUMSTANCES, AND WOULD REGRET IT ACCORDINGLY. HE URGED THAT THE GOI INFORM US IN ADVANCE WHEN IT WAS CONTEMPLATING CHANGING ITS CURRENT RECOGNITION POLICY.

3. COMMENT: PARANJPE ARGUED THAT THE INDIAN OFFICE IN PHNOM PENH WAS BEING CLOSED BECAUSE OF THE HAZARDS OF LIFE IN THE CITY AT THIS TIME. HE EMPHASIZED THE MILITARY SITUATION AS BEING THE KEY TO THE INDIAN POSITION AND HINTED THAT IF AND WHEN THE INDIANS BECAME CONVINCED THE CITY WAS ABOUT TO FALL, THEY WOULD NO LONGER FEEL COMMITTED TO ANY FORM OF RECOGNITION OF PHNOM PENH. UNTIL THAT TIME, THEY WILL WAVER BUT WE BELIEVE-- PERHAPS HOPE WOULD BE A BETTER WORD--WILL NOT JUMP ONTO THE SIHANOUK BANGWAGON UNLESS MRS. GANDHI FEELS HEAVILY PRESSED BY SOME OF HER NON-ALIGNED AND COMMUNIST FRIENDS.
MOYNIHAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECOGNITION, GRUNK, GOVERNMENT IN EXILE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NEWDE02995
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740375/aaaacrjo.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: NEW DELHI 2903
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUL 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <27 JAN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDIAN RECOGNITION OF CAMBODIA (SIHANOUK)
TAGS: PFOR, IN, CB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005